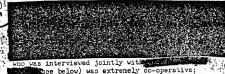
ice M. rorandum 20 January 1954 Chief, Security Research Staff FROM ! Chief, Technical Branch

ARTICHOKE Interviews with Contacts

On 19 January 1954 between 2:00 and 5:00 PM, and the writer talked with four contacts who have been cleared to the Secret level in connection with the ARTICHOKE work Set out below is a very brief, summary of the discussions and the results thereof.



offered the facilities of the library; and offered to assist in the identification of rare mushrooms. if ever necessary. ____so stated he would talk to other specialists at and attempt to arrange ways and means to grow mush-a? rooms or prepare mushrooms "unofficially" for possible future use in connection with the ARTI-CHOKE program. Lated be felt that there was a great deal of information missing in connection with toxic qualities of the mushroom family and he was well aware of use made by certain Soviet peoples in certain types of mushroom intoxication. felt that considerable work. recommended that research be extended and to in-

as noted above, was interviewed with and supported entirely personally offered to assist in the identification of mushrooms

clude particularly contact with Salready cleared) collect toxic species and personally research sources available to him for rere and littleknown types of mushrooms having toxic qualities of interest to ARTIGHOME.

and is regarded as a top-flight specialist on desert and jumple plants. He is presently stationed was highly recommended

s opinion, the ARTICHOKE field has never been properly explored insofar as little-known narcotic plants and shrubs are concerned. Theted a number of years ago he asked the of twenty million dollers to make a study of medicinal plants of all types in the Western Hemisphere. Stated this enormous request was approved by in principal but was turned down when it was discovered that' government agencies of necessity would become involved in this work. would immediately write to individuals he knew, without disclosing Agency interest, and set up contacts and request advice in collection of material. in addition, requested the clearance of certain individuals who he stated would be of great help in this work and promised when these individuals were cleared he would see to it that the necessary co-operation was forthcoming. Furthermore purned over the use of his extremely valu-

and gave to a considerable amount of original material along lines of interest to

ble library containing rare

According to many sources previously,

contacted, the obtaining of and propagating of certain bottaining of and propagating of certain bottaincals, can be of great assistance in the ARTICHOKE
work. Who was seen very late in the
day, proved to be very enthusiastic and offered
every possible assistance both in collection and
growth of botenicals. Since
leaving the following day, time was very
short and he asket
return as soon as arrangements could be made and he
could work out certain ideas he had regarding contacts and botanical collections along ARTICHOKE
lines. A report vill be submitted on subsequent
interviews with

On 20 January 1954, between 9:30 and 11:00 AM

was one of the individuals whom connection with the ARTICHOKE work. Throwed entirely sympathetic and made numbrous suggestions and immediately produced information of value in this work. supported the idea of extensive work in the ARTICHOKE field and stated efforts should be made to carry out experimentation on human beings through the use of prison facilities or hospitals, preferably close to Washington where the work could be observed properly. Why grated that some of his work has been carried out in certain experimentation at certain experimentation at an he thought that would be helpful tated if funds could be and co-operate in this work. made available, his organization would support and carry out research along the lines of ARTICHOIE which would furnish a perfect natural cover for this work. It is tated he would immediately begin research along these lines and requested the and the writer to have a conference next week with him and his associates, is cleared and this conference will be arranged as soon as possible.) equested that certain other individuals be cleared to facilitate this work and stated that he would direct his associates to research along certain lines of intere to us without disclosing Agency interest.